ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus for separating foreign matter from fiber tufts includes an air duct in which fiber tufts are pneumatically conveyed into the system via a high speed air stream. The air duct provides an air stream that conveys the fiber tufts with trash on to a revolving cleaning cylinder having teeth to engage the fiber tufts at a velocity that is sufficient to prevent agglomeration of the fiber tufts on a cylinder. The fiber tufts and trash thereby engage a separating means without agglomeration of the fiber tufts. The fiber tufts and trash further engage a streamer plate and grid bars to separate the trash from the fiber tufts such that the clean fiber tufts are distributed to a lint flue. The apparatus may further include a perforated cylinder in close proximity with the revolving cleaning cylinder that allows air to flow therethrough, but that prevents penetration of the perforated cylinder surface by the desired fiber tufts. The use of the perforated cylinder provides an efficient means to cause the fiber tufts to engage the revolving cleaning cylinder without agglomeration to remove the undesired trash and deliver the desirable fiber tufts into a battery condenser.